

Data Description for Meter Square Oyster Data

General: The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries conducts an annual estimate of the density of seed size oysters (1-3 inches) and sack size oysters (>3 inches) on the public oyster reefs in Breton Sound. After the boat is positioned at the coordinates of a sampling station, a frame measuring one square meter is thrown overboard. A SCUBA-equipped diver then collects all oysters encompassed by the frame and takes a sample of the substrate. The frame is tossed overboard three times to take three replicate samples at each of 27 locations shown in Map 2003-04-123. Sampling began at Station 28 in 1996, but this station is not illustrated on the map.

Data Column Descriptions:

Station: Station 17 is now located on privately-leased water bottom and has not been sampled since 1994. The table below gives the geographic coordinates for the 27 locations.

Station	Latitude	Longitude
1	29° 38' 00"	89° 33' 14"
2	29° 38' 03"	89° 37' 24"
3	29° 37' 15"	89° 34' 15"
4	29° 37' 00"	89° 31' 27"
5	29° 36' 00"	89° 36' 50"
6	29° 36' 15"	89° 32' 36"
7	29° 35' 35"	89° 33' 58"
8	29° 34' 00"	89° 36' 00"
9	29° 34' 30"	89° 33' 15"
10	29° 33' 50"	89° 31' 55"
11	29° 33' 00"	89° 33' 30"
12	29° 32' 00"	89° 32' 00"
13	29° 31' 20"	89° 32' 30"
14	29° 30' 40"	89° 34' 00"
15	29° 30' 50"	89° 31' 40"
16	29° 30' 00"	89° 33' 40"
17	29° 30' 30"	89° 35' 30"
18	29° 29' 30"	89° 31' 15"
19	29° 29' 30"	89° 32' 20"
20	29° 30' 25"	89° 32' 45"
21	29° 33' 55"	89° 34' 35"
22	29° 33' 30"	89° 33' 58"
23	29° 34' 40"	89° 37' 30"
24	29° 35' 00"	89° 38' 50"
25	29° 29' 00"	89° 25' 25"
26	29° 36' 15"	89° 29' 00"
27	29° 40' 15"	89° 30' 35"

Date: mm/dd/yyyy

Shell Plant: Yes or No, indicating whether or not oyster shells have been strewn at the spot to supply substrate.

Total Live Oysters: This is the sum of the seed size and sack size oysters counted in the one square meter sample.

Rep: Up to three replicate measurements are made at each station. That is, the m² frame is thrown overboard up to three times.

Live Oysters (1-3 inches): This is the number of live seed size oysters counted inside the frame.

Live Oysters (>3 inches): This is the number of live sack size oysters counted inside the frame.

Dead Oysters: This is the number of dead oysters of both sizes counted inside the frame. (The 1997 survey included, as extra measurements, a count of dead sack size oysters. These data are not included with this data set, but are available on request.)

Cultch Type: Cultch types are classified as: clam shell, oyster shell, limestone, rubble, combination, and no cultch.

Reef Type: Reefs are described as: exposed cultch, exposed scattered, covered with mud, and covered with silt.

Drills: This column reports the number of oyster drills found inside the m² frame.